

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (previously presented) A fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber obtained by vulcanizing silicone oil latex with irradiation, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 60% by weight.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 16, comprising fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber particles having an average particle size of from 0.02 to  $1\mu$  m.

Claim 18 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 17, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber particles have an average particle size of from 0.05 to  $0.5\mu$  m.

Claim 19 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 17, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber particles have an average particle size of from 0.05 to  $0.1\mu$  m.

Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 16, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 75% by weight.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 16, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber comprises fully vulcanized silicone rubber particles having a homogeneous structure.

Claim 23 (previously presented) A process for preparing the composition according to claim 16, which comprises vulcanizing a silicone oil latex by means of irradiation in the presence of a crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of isooctyl (meth)acrylate, glycidyl (meth)acrylate, 1,4-butandiol di(meth)acrylate, 1,6-hexandiol di(meth)acrylate, diethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, triethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, neopentyl glycol di(meth)acrylate, divinyl benzene, trimethylolpropane tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate, ethoxylated pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate or dipentaerythritol penta(meth)acrylate, and any combination thereof

Claim 24 (previously presented) The process according to claim 23, comprising irradiating the silicone oil latex with a high-energy source and drying the latex after the irradiation.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein the high-

energy source is selected from the group consisting of cobalt source, X-rays, UV rays and high-energy electron beams.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein the high-energy source is a cobalt source.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein the silicone oil latex is irradiated with an irradiation dose in the range of from 5 to 30 megarads.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The process according to claim 24, wherein the silicone oil latex is irradiated with an irradiation dose in the range of from 10 to 20 megarads.

Claims 29 and 30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously presented) The process according to claim 23 , wherein the crosslinking agent is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on a solid content of the silicone oil latex.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The process according to claim 23, wherein the crosslinking agent is present in an amount of from 0.5 to 7% by weight based on a solid content of the silicone oil latex.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The process according to claim 29, wherein the crosslinking agent is present in an amount of from 0.7 to 5% by weight based on a solid content of the silicone oil latex.

Claim 34 (previously presented) The process according to Claim 24, wherein the drying is carried out by spray drying with a spray dryer or by precipitation drying.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The process according to claim 34, wherein the drying is carried out by spray drying, and an inlet temperature of the spray dryer is controlled at 100 to 200°C, and an outlet temperature of the spray dryer is controlled at 20 to 80°C.

Claim 36 (previously presented) A method for processing or toughening a plastic comprising:

- (a) providing the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber of claim 16; and
- (b) mixing said fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber with the plastic.

Claim 37 (previously presented) A method for treating a cosmetic, ink, paint or coating comprising:

- (a) providing the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber of claim 16; and
- (b) mixing said fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber with the cosmetic, ink, paint or coating.

Claim 38 (cancelled)

Claim 39 (previously presented) A fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber obtained by vulcanizing a silicone oil latex selected from the group consisting of dimethyl silicone oil latex, diethyl silicone oil latex, methylphenyl silicone oil latex, and methyl hydrosilicone oil latex with irradiation in the presence of a crosslinking agent, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 60% by weight.

Claim 40 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 39, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 75% by weight.

Claim 41 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 39, wherein the crosslinking agent is present in an amount of from 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on a solid content of the silicone oil latex.

Claim 42 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 39, wherein the irradiating during the preparation of the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber is carried out using a high-energy source in the presence of a crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of monofunctional, difunctional, trifunctional, tetrafunctional and multifunctional crosslinking agent, and any combination thereof.

Claim 43 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 42, wherein the crosslinking agent is selected from the group consisting of isooctyl (meth)acrylate, glycidyl (meth)acrylate, 1,4-butandiol di(meth)acrylate, 1,6-hexandiol di(meth)acrylate, diethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, triethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, neopentyl glycol di(meth)acrylate, divinyl benzene, trimethylolpropane tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate, ethoxylated pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate or di-pentaerythritol penta(meth)acrylate, and any combination thereof.

Claim 44 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 39, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber comprises fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber particles having a homogeneous structure.

Claim 45 (previously presented) A fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber obtained by vulcanizing a dimethyl silicone oil latex with irradiation using a high-energy source selected from the group consisting of cobalt source, X-rays, UV rays and high-energy electron beams, in the presence of a crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of isooctyl (meth)acrylate, glycidyl (meth)acrylate, 1,4-butandiol di(meth)acrylate, 1,6-hexandiol di(meth)acrylate, diethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, triethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, neopentyl glycol di(meth)acrylate, divinyl benzene, trimethylolpropane tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate, ethoxylated pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate or

di-pentaerythritol penta(meth)acrylate, and any combination thereof, the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber having a gel content of at least 60% by weight, and the crosslinking agent being present before irradiation in an amount of from 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on a solid content of the silicone oil latex.

Claim 46 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 45, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 75% by weight.

Claim 47 (previously presented) The fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 46, wherein the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber comprises fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber particles having a homogeneous structure.

Claim 48 (currently amended) A process for preparing a fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber, said process consisting essentially of the following steps:

- (a) providing a starting material consisting of silicone oil latex selected from the group consisting of dimethyl silicone oil latex, diethyl silicone oil latex, methylphenyl silicone oil latex, and methyl hydrosilicone oil latex;
- (b) vulcanizing the starting material with irradiation in the presence of a crosslinking agent so as to form a fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber having a gel content of at least 60% by weight, said crosslinking agent being selected from the group consisting of monofunctional, difunctional, trifunctional, tetrafunctional and

multifunctional crosslinking agent, and any combination thereof; and

(c) drying the latex obtained in step (b).

Claim 49 (previously presented) The process according to claim 48, wherein the crosslinking agent is selected from the group consisting of isoctyl (meth)acrylate, glycidyl (meth)acrylate, 1,4-butandiol di(meth)acrylate, 1,6-hexandiol di(meth)acrylate, diethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, triethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, neopentyl glycol di(meth)acrylate, divinyl benzene, trimethylolpropane tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate, ethoxylated pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate or di-pentaerythritol penta(meth)acrylate, and any combination thereof.

Claim 50 (previously presented) The process according to claim 48, the irradiating is carried out using a high-energy source selected from the group consisting of cobalt source, X-rays, UV rays and high-energy electron beams.

Claim 51 (previously presented) A process for preparing the fully vulcanized powdery silicone rubber according to claim 16, which comprises vulcanizing a silicone oil latex by means of irradiation in the presence of a crosslinking agent to such an extent that obtained powdery silicone rubber has a gel content of at least 60% by weight.

Claim 52 (previously presented) The process according to claim 51, wherein the crosslinking agent is selected from the group consisting of isoctyl (meth)acrylate,

glycidyl (meth)acrylate, 1,4-butandiol di(meth)acrylate, 1,6-hexandiol di(meth)acrylate, diethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, triethylene glycol di(meth)acrylate, neopentyl glycol di(meth)acrylate, divinyl benzene, trimethylolpropane tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tri(meth)acrylate, pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate, ethoxylated pentaerythritol tetra(meth)acrylate or di-pentaerythritol penta(meth)acrylate, and any combination thereof.